



**Embassy of India  
Bahrain**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**29 November 2024**

H.E. Mr. Vinod K Jacob, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain participated in the inaugural of the event on “NEW AGE” organized by Bahrain Chapter of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI) on 29 November 2024 at Bahrain. In his address to the gathering, Ambassador Jacob shared his perspectives on the India-Bahrain economic relationship.

On investments, there has been a 40 percent increase in two-way investments since 2019 with the cumulative currently standing at more than USD 1.62 billion. When we look at the latest data provided by the Government of Bahrain, Indian investments during the one year period 2023 Q2 to 2024 Q2 was USD 265 million. This represents a substantial increase from the one year period 2023 Q1 to 2024 Q1 when Indian investment was of the order of USD 200 million. It is also pertinent to mention that in the recent past, highly reputed Indian brands have decided to establish a presence in Bahraini market or elevate the already existing engagement. When we turn to trade, according to statistics from the Department of Commerce of the Government of India, for the period April 2023 to March 2024, two way trade reached US\$ 1.73 billion. The trade gap was a marginal US\$ 80 million, down from US\$ 146.61 million in 2021-22. Five years ago, in 2019-2020, trade was US\$ 980.59 million and in 2005, it was US\$575 million. Tourism flows from India into Bahrain have increased by 44 percent in the most recent one year period for which data is available, going from 736,510 in 2022 to 1,059,371 in 2023.

Ambassador Jacob also highlighted a few initiatives taken by the Indian Embassy in Bahrain in order to support the growth of India-Bahrain economic engagement. Through the “Focus State/ Union Territory” initiative, touristic and One District One Product (ODOP) products of a particular state/UT are promoted in Bahrain for a period of around two months through the exhibitions at the Consular Wing of the Embassy at Seef and through other events and social media campaigns. Himachal Pradesh is the latest in this series after Rajasthan, Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha and Punjab. Second, the “Visit Embassy” programme for high schools students which has gone one for one year has seen more than ten schools including Bahraini schools participating and learning about new India.

Before concluding, Ambassador Jacob noted that very few Chartered Accountants from Bahrain had made it to the leader-board of the Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz (<https://bkjquiz.com/>) and said that it was imperative that the entire BCICAI community actively participates in the quiz and win prizes.

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